

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, the invention of Group 1, claims 1-28, 96, 104-105, 113-115, and 124 drawn to a system and method of conducting business. Although Applicants have included claims 28, 96, and 105 under Group 1 per the Examiner's classification of the claims in the Restriction Requirement, Applicants respectfully point out that claims 28, 96, and 105 are drawn to a computer network-based contract trading system and therefore would likely be better classified under Group 3, which the Examiner has classified as a computer based contract trading system. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled claims in one or more divisional applications.

All pending claims are allowable and Applicants therefore respectfully request a Notice of Allowance from the Examiner. Should the Examiner have questions, the Applicants' undersigned agent may be reached at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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